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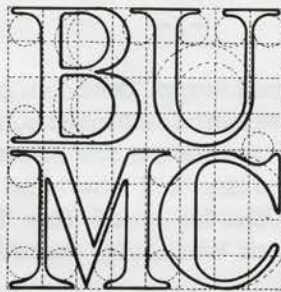
BU Publications

BUMC Director's Newsletter

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DIRECTOR'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 3

80 East Concord Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02118

February 1964

They're razing the roof! (as well as the floor) That beautiful scene below represents the first step in the construction of the new BU-Massachusetts Mental Health Center. It's the demolition of the Armory. Rumor has it that Dr. Bandler, Director of the new Center, has taped into his office the sound of the demolition, and the louder it gets, the wider his smiles! Scheduled for occupancy in 1967, the Center is regarded as a unique operation in this area of activity, and will include an auditorium, a gymnasium, an Olympic-size swimming pool for therapy (as well as for use by BUMC staff), a drug-addiction clinic, facilities for child and adolescent psychiatry, clinical research floors, teaching areas, etc. The skeptics among us will soon be nodding their heads in approval as the dirt begins to fly!



FEB 4 1964

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Dr. Richard H. Egdahl has been appointed new Chief of Surgery as of July 1, 1964, when Dr. Reginald H. Smithwick retires from the post he has filled with distinction and to which he has brought international recognition to himself and to BUMC. Dr. Egdahl, Professor of Surgery at the Medical College of Virginia, holds degrees from Dartmouth College, Harvard Medical School, and the University of Minnesota (Ph.D.) He has gained wide recognition in the fields of organ transplantation and neuroendocrinology, and will bring to the BUMC Department of Surgery a number of associates in this area, and together the team will be in charge of the artificial kidney program.

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Mr. George Sherman was nominated as a Trustee of the Medical Center at its December meeting, which nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Trustees of Boston University and the Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals. Mr. Sherman, who is a Trustee of the University and who was also elected a Trustee of MMH at their December meeting, is Chairman of the Board of Sherman Paper Products, a Division of St. Regis Paper of which he serves as Director.

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The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals saw the election of two other Trustees, in addition to Mr. Sherman: Mr. Clifton H. Eaton, Manufacturing Administrator of The Gillette Safety Razor Company; and Mr. Ernest F. Stockwell, Jr., a Vice President of the First National Bank of Boston.

MMH Incorporators elected at that meeting were: Messrs. B. Devereux Barker, Jr., George S. Bissell, Nicholas W. Danforth, Lawrence A. Sykes, Everett Ware Smith, D. Thomas Trigg, H. Bradford Washburn, Jr., and Charles H. Wood.

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Budget Business with a Battered Business Officer didn't slow up BUMC. On Christmas Day, Bob Jordan had a mishap, broke his knee, and ended up in Holyoke Hospital. But he was back in his office by January 6, complete with cast. All deadlines were met for the budget, thanks to the cooperation of the Business Office staff. Bob is hobbling around and commuting from Scituate, the ferry-man being Geoff Jackson of MMH. Good luck, Bob, and best wishes for an unplastered leg at the soonest!

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BUSM Alumni Association announces the appointment of Robert S. Fox as Executive Secretary, replacing the late Grace Auburn. We're looking forward to a new, "eager beaver" operation, and a revitalized interest on the part of BUSM Alumni members. On a recent visit to Puerto Rico, Acting Dean Gellis, Dr. Mescon and Dr. Stearns met a large group of BUSM Alumni who had never heard of BUMC or of its activities! Incidentally, if any of our readers know of faculty, staff, or alumni not receiving the Director's Newsletter, please let us know.

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A successful and enthusiastic meeting of the BUMC Affiliate Board was held on December 4th, and plans are being made for another meeting. A great deal of interest was evident in problems in which the Affiliates thought they might receive assistance from the Center. BUMC Affiliates include: Boston City Hospital, Boston State Hospital, Robert Breck Brigham Hospital, Carney Hospital, Framingham Union Hospital, Huggins Hospital, Medfield State Hospital, Monadnock Community Hospital, Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, Douglas A. Thom Clinic for Children, Veterans Administration Hospitals in Boston, Brockton, and Providence, and the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology.

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Plant (B & G) staff deserves a round of applause for keeping us un-snowbound during and following the big blizzard on January 13th. Happily, a lot of cars were left at home, but those that were not had no difficulty in finding a parking space. And speaking of snow, I hope you're all using those mats that Plant has placed inside of all doors at BUSM. The staff is doing a great job of keeping the corridors clean, and let's help them by using the mats!

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And speaking of snow, once again - as stated in the February 1963 Director's Newsletter, the BUMC and the BU policy is never closed because of bad weather. This means classes, offices, and laboratories. Just be prepared to brave the elements!

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Dr. Isaac Asimov received accolades from the Boston Globe where his new book, "The Human Brain: Its Capacities and Functions," was recently reviewed. A few notable quotes: "Isaac Asimov is a rarity -- a scientist who can write about his subject in an entertaining way. Most scientists find writing for any other audience than their peers a difficult, almost impossible task..... Writing genuine science for Mr. Average I. (for Intelligence) Citizen is another thing. That is where Dr. Asimov scores over his erudite colleagues. He has the common touch and the ability to transfer it into the written word. His latest book is a perfect example. What could be more difficult to discuss in understandable and generally interesting terms than the brain? Actually, Dr. Asimov....does more. In step-by-step fashion....he explains hormones, pancreas, thyroid, adrenal cortex, gonads, nerves, nervous system, cerebrum, and spinal cord." Congratulations, Dr. Asimov! Perhaps we should make this required reading for all non-professional staff!

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The Law-Medicine Research Institute - speaking of books - has just published an impressive anthology and bibliography entitled: "Clinical Investigation in Medicine: Legal, Ethical, and Moral Aspects," edited by Irving Ladimer and Roger W. Newman, with a Foreword written by Director William J. Curran, Utley Professor of Legal Medicine.

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Ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Residential Facility are tentatively scheduled for Spring 1964, with occupancy anticipated for September 1965. Under an HHFA loan, the building will house 150 students in apartment-type dwellings of one and two bedrooms, each with a sitting room and kitchenette. A cafeteria is planned for the main floor with recreational facilities in the basement. We anticipate more than a few loud hurrahs when that first shovel hits the ground!

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Class Day Exercises for the graduating class will be held on Saturday, June 6, 1964, in the auditorium of the School of Fine and Applied Arts, 855 Commonwealth Avenue. All faculty members are invited. Ceremonies will begin at 8:00 p.m.

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An Institute for the Correction of Facial Deformities is under study by the MMH Trustees following approval, in principle, of such a facility by the BUMC Trustee Council. Such an institute would be a part of the rehabilitation activities tied to the MMH Department of Preventive Medicine, headed by Dr. Henry J. Bakst. It is conceived as being comprehensive in its scope and providing such restoration as is needed to achieve the desired results, whether the problem be due to congenital deformity, acquired disease, or trauma.

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Personal Notes....DR. BERNARD BANDLER is Chairman of the Committee on Mental Health Training of the NIMH which met in Bethesda last month. He will be participating in the Institute for Training in Community Psychiatry at Arden House later this month....DR. IRVING SILVERMAN, BUSM alumnus and MMH staff member, was recently elected Vice-President of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics....MISS FLORENCE FLORES, MMH Director of Nursing, conducted an all-day workshop on nursing service for the Connecticut Nurses' Association....Participating in the Symposium on Skeletal Muscle Hypertonia conducted by the Veterans Administration last month were DRS. NORMAN GESCHWIND, Assistant Research Professor of Neurology; CHARLES A. KANE, Professor of Neurology; IRVING M. LEVINE, Instructor in Neurology; and LAWRENCE STARK, Professor of Medicine....DR. WILLIAM HOLLAND, Associate Professor of Medicine, received a National Heart Institute grant of \$300,000 for a study of the causes and management of high blood pressure and heart attacks....Congratulations to PETER S. DECKER, BUSM student, who for the second year was awarded the Pfizer Laboratories Medical Scholarship.



Lewis H. Rohrbaugh
Director